GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4611
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
ECONOMIC REFORMS FOR NORTH EAST
Borkataky Shri Narayan Chandra

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of economic growth during the Tenth Plan period is satisfactory for all the regions/sectors of the country;

(b) if so, the extent to which the economic reforms have boosted the prospects of economic growth of the North Eastern States;

(c) whether there is any proposal to adopt new strategy for the North Eastern Region during the Eleventh Plan ; and

(d) if so, details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) to (d): The average growth for the 10th Plan period is estimated to be around 7.2%. Though, this is below the 10th Plan target of 8%, it is the highest growth rate achieved in any plan period. The estimated growth of industry sector during tenth plan period is 8.3% against the target of 8.86%. The estimated growth of Service sector is 9% against the target of 9.35%. However, Agriculture lost its growth momentum during the plan period with a growth of around 1.7% against the target of 4%.

Differences exist in the pace of development across the states and imbalances within the states as well. According to the available estimates, performance of Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura had been good. However, performance of remaining five states of the North East had not been as expected.

The Approach to the 11th Five Year Plan has recognized the special problems of North-East, such as its geographical location, inadequacy of physical infrastructure, low level of entrepreneurship, etc. The document has accorded high priority to improving the transport infrastructure, exploration of natural resources and encouragement to tourism, horticulture, agriculture and forestry.